

Torrance, California  
March 8, 1938

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday evening, March 8, 1938, at 7:45 p.m.

Mayor Tolson called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being

Councilmen: Deininger, Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson.  
Absent: Councilmen: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the minutes of a regular meeting held February 23, 1938 and of an adjourned regular meeting held February 25, 1938, be approved as written. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

A communication from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce was read. This communication was submitted on behalf of the Torrance Royal Neighbors Lodge and requested that the Torrance Municipal Band be furnished to entertain a group of visiting delegates of that lodge who will convene in Torrance during the month of April. Councilman McGuire moved that the request be granted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication from the Los Angeles Board of Education was read, petitioning the City Council to vacate a certain alley contiguous to the Walteria School site. After a brief discussion, Councilman Hitchcock moved that Engineer Leonard be authorized to request the Board of Education to provide an exit to Ward and Park Streets for the convenience of persons residing on those streets. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication from the Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company was read, requesting that a letter be directed to them to the effect that the lease and agreement dated December 20, 1937, covering use of water mains in Tract 10185, can be cancelled at any time prior to termination of the lease by written notice and delivery of executed Bill of Sale, conveying title as agreed in said lease, thereby releasing the City from obligation to continue payments as provided in said lease.

Councilman Powell moved that this request be granted. Councilman Deininger seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

An initiative petition with 790 signatures attached was read. This initiative petition was circulated with the intention of placing it on the ballot for the next Municipal Election, which petition provided for the creation and maintenance of the Torrance Symphonic Orchestra as a Municipal affair. Clerk Bartlett stated that the signatures had been checked and were found to be valid, with the exception of a few technicalities. An opinion given by Attorney McCall was then read. Attorney McCall held that this petition was invalid, in view of the fact that the provisions of Section 1083-D of the Political Code were not complied with. Mr. Ludlow stated that the City Council is vested with the power to place, on its own volition, any initiative measure on the ballot. He said that the large number of signatures expressed the wishes of a large percentage of the voters and, for that reason, he would like to see the measure submitted to a vote.

Councilman Deininger moved that the petition be filed. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication from Mr. R.J. Deininger was read, in which he tendered his resignation as a member of the City Council.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the resignation be accepted as of April 1, 1938. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Engineer Leonard asked that the City Council invite the group of people who are working on the Hawthorne Avenue Improvement proposition to meet, at some time in the near future, with the City Council.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an invitation be extended this group to meet on Friday, March 18, 1938 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Engineer Leonard was instructed to notify the group of the meeting date.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that not to exceed \$37.50 be appropriated for a bench grinder for the Street Department. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Council meet at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, March 12, 1938, for the purpose of investigating trees for possible removal. Councilman Powell moved that the Chairman of the Tree Committee be authorized to investigate this matter. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried.

Clerk Bartlett presented:

RESOLUTION NO. 1179

RESOLUTION FIXING PRECINCTS, POLLING PLACES  
AND HOURS POLLS WILL BE OPEN FOR GENERAL  
MUNICIPAL ELECTION, APRIL 12, 1938.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1179 be adopted. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, Powell, McGuire and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented:

RESOLUTION NO. 1180

RESOLUTION APPOINTING ELECTION OFFICERS FOR  
GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION APRIL 12, 1938.

Councilman McGuire moved that Resolution No. 1180 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett reported franchise earnings from the Southern California Edison Company amounting to \$1053.27.

Mrs. Lillian Carmien requested that she be granted a refund on a business license issued to her on February 2, 1938, stating that, due to an illness which had developed since that time, she would be unable to use the license.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be granted. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At 8:19 p.m. the meeting recessed until 8:30, the time set for hearing of protests on the zoning matter.

At 8:30 p.m. the meeting was resumed. No protests were presented.

Mayor Tolson suggested that the zoning matter be referred to Attorney McCall for a report at a future meeting.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Attorney McCall be requested to prepare a report on the zoning matter and present it at the meeting of March 22, 1938.

Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At 8:35 p.m., upon motion of Councilman McGuire, seconded by Councilman Hitchcock, the meeting adjourned to March 15, 1938 at 4:45 p.m.

A. H. Bantist  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved:

M. J. Tolson  
Mayor of the City of Torrance